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PATENT

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application Of: Wilde et al.

Serial No.: 09/305,295

Filed: 05/07/99

Art Unit: 3673

Examiner: J. Lee

For: VARIABLE BUOYANCY BUOY FOR MOORING MOBILE
OFFSHORE DRILLING UNITS

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

This is in response to the Office Action mailed 04/11/00, in which Claims 30-41 were pending, Claims 30-41 were rejected and the Action was made final. Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's careful review of Claim 40 and proposals for overcoming certain indefiniteness detected in Claim 40. Applicant also notes with appreciation the Examiner's beneficial suggestions during a telephone interview on 06/13/00. Appropriate corrections to incorporate such suggestions are set forth below.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the US Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on:	
<u>11 July 2000</u>	
 John W. Montgomery	